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The ADVOCATE OF PEACE.

BOSTON, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER, 1897.

A DAY will come when war will appear as absurd, and be as impossible, between Paris and London, between St. Petersburg and Berlin, between Vienna and Turin, as it would be now between Rouen and Amiens, between Boston and Philadelphia. A day will come when you, France — you, Russia — you, Italy — you, England — you, Germany — all of you, nations of the Continent, will, without losing your distinctive qualities and your glorious individuality, be blended into a superior unity, and constitute a European fraternity, just as Normandy, Britanny, Burgundy, have been blended into France. A day will come when the only battlefield will be the market opening to commerce and the mind opening to new ideas. A day will come when bullets and shells will be replaced by votes, by the universal suffrage of nations, by the venerable arbitration of a great Sovereign Senate which will be to Europe what the Parliament is to England, what the Diet is to Germany, what the Legislative Assembly is to France. A day will come when a cannon will be exhibited in public museums just as an instrument of torture is now, and people will be astonished how such a thing could have been. A day will come when those two immense groups, the United States of America and the United States of Europe, shall be seen placed in presence of each other, extending the hand of fellowship across the ocean, exchanging their produce, their commerce, their industry, their arts, their genius, clearing the earth, peopling the deserts, improving creation under the eye of the Creator, and uniting, for the good of all, these two irresistible and infinite powers, the fraternity of men and the power of God. Nor is it necessary that four hundred years should pass away for that day to come. We live in a rapid period, in the most impetuous current of events and ideas which has ever borne humanity along; and at the period in which we live a year suffices to do the work of a century.

VICTOR HUGO in 1849.

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ARTICLE I. This Society shall be designated the "AMERICAN PEACE SOCIETY."

ART. II. This Society, being founded on the principle that all war is contrary to the spirit of the gospel, shall have for its object to illustrate the inconsistency of war with Christianity, to show its baleful influence on all the great interests of mankind, and to devise means for insuring universal and permanent peace.

ART. III. Persons of every Christian denomination desirous of promoting peace on earth, and good-will towards men, may become members of this Society.

ART. IV. Every annual subscriber of two dollars shall be a member of this Society.

ART. V. The payment of twenty dollars at one time shall constitute any person a Life-member.

ART. VI. The chairman of each corresponding committee, the officers and delegates of every auxiliary contributing to the funds of this Society, and every minister of the gospel who preaches once a year on the subject of peace, and takes up a collection in

behalf of the cause, shall be entitled to the privileges of regular members.

ART. VII. All contributors shall be entitled within the year to one-half the amount of their contributions in the publications of the Society.

ART. VIII. The Officers of this Society shall be a President, Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, a Treasurer, an Auditor and a Board of Directors, consisting of not less than twenty members of the Society, including the President, Secretary and Treasurer, who shall be ex-officio members of the Board. All Officers shall hold their offices until their successors are appointed, and the Board of Directors shall have power to fill vacancies in any office of the Society. There shall be an Executive Committee of seven, consisting of the President, Secretary and five Directors to be chosen by the Board, which Committee shall, subject to the Board of Directors, have the entire control of the executive and financial affairs of the Society. Meetings of the Board of Directors or of the Executive Committee may be called by the President the Secretary or two members of such body. The Society or the Board of Directors may invite persons of well known legal ability to act as Honorary Counsel.

ART. IX. The Society shall hold an annual meeting at such time and place as the Board of Directors may appoint, to receive their own and the Treasurer's report, to choose officers, and transact such other business as may come before them.

ART. X. The object of this Society shall never be changed; but the constitution may in other respects be altered, on recommendation of the Executive Committee, or of any ten members of the Society, by a vote of three-fourths of the members present at any regular meeting.

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
EDITORIALS	173—176
Hamburg Peace Congress—American Feeling towards England—The Interparliamentary Peace Conference.	
EDITORIAL NOTES	177—179
Secretary Trueblood—Behring Sea Commission—H. A. Herberl's Plea for Navy—Japan and Hawaii— Graceo-Turkish Negotiations—Franco-Italian Duel— Uprising in India—Assassination of President Borda and Prime Minister Canovas—Secretary's Lectures— Death of George S. Hale and Rev. Amos Herr—Mo- honk Conference Report—American Bar Association— Mystic Peace Meeting.	
Proceedings of the Eighth International Peace Congress .	180
MOHONK CONFERENCE ADDRESSES:	
Address of President Dreher	185
Address of Professor J. C. Bracq	186
Address of Dr. Cuyler	187
Address of Dr. John B. Clark	188
Address of Hon. George F. Seward	190
Address of Hon. Robert Treat Paine	191
Address of Miss Lucia T. Ames	192
Address of Judge T. J. Morris	194
Address of Rev. Benjamin Fay Mills	195
Address of Rev. Charles F. Dole	196
Eternal Peace, <i>Inmanuel Kant</i>	196

THE HAMBURG PEACE CONGRESS AND THE PEACE MOVEMENT IN EUROPE.

A peace congress in this year of grace is a very different affair from the one held in London in 1843, or from those held in Brussels, Paris, Frankfort, London and Edinburg in the years 1848 to 1853. These earlier congresses were only in a very limited way international. It is true their membership was as large as that of recent congresses, and the men who composed them were among the ablest of their time. It is doubtful if any of the present-day congresses have had as many strong and morally courageous men as were the leading spirits in that earlier day. One has only to read the names of Richard Cobden, Victor Hugo, Henry Richard, Elihu Burritt, Athanase Coquerel, Frederic Bastiat, Amasa Walker, Emile de Girardin, John Bright and others who participated in the peace conventions of half a century ago to become almost painfully aware that the con-

gresses of to-day are in no wise intellectually superior to the earlier ones. What then is the difference?

The earlier congresses were almost wholly the expression of the persistent and energetic efforts of a few individuals. There were but few societies behind them. In most of the nations of Europe there were no societies at all. The movement had not yet taken hold of society as such. Consequently it was found after a brief period practically impossible to keep the congresses up. The peace congress of our day stands for a great movement which has passed beyond the individualistic stage to one of wide social character. The peace societies have extended into many countries and grown in number from half a dozen to nearly four hundred, and outside of their folds organizations of many kinds are working in their own way for the same end. The peace congress of to-day is therefore representative of a large and rapidly increasing constituency from all classes of society. It has become a fixed international institution and will remain so, holding its sessions from year to year, or at brief intervals, until the movement becomes so advanced as to make it no longer necessary.

The Congress held in Hamburg from the 12th to the 16th of August, of whose proceedings we give a brief summary in this issue, made it perfectly evident that the peace movement has passed beyond the stage of neglect and largely that of ridicule and is now receiving serious attention everywhere. Even those German papers which spoke derisively of its "empty resolutions" and "high-sounding speeches" were compelled to notice its presence in Germany, and to make it the text of a discussion of the problem of European peace. A paper which, like the *Algemeine Zeitung*, sees no way to European peace except by keeping up the vast armaments of the continent can not be expected to see much utility in good speeches and strong resolutions, whose appeal is made to the reason and conscience of peoples, and which have no cannon or battle ships to enforce their principles. But the *Algemeine Zeitung* found it necessary to notice the "noise" of the Congress, even though it could see nothing practical in it. The local press of Hamburg, with the exception of one or two aristocratic papers like the